



22500 Salamo Road
West Linn, Oregon 97068
<http://westlinnoregon.gov>

**WEST LINN
POLICE STATION
STEERING COMMITTEE
Minutes
September 19, 2012**

Attendees

Committee Members Present: Troy Bowers, Grant Oaks, Dennis Richey, Glen Friedman
City Staff Present: Bob Galante, Elissa Preston, Terry Timeus, Vic Lancaster
Guest: Brett Hanson, Group Mackenzie Project Manager
Absent: Thomas Frank, Karen Hensley

Approve meeting minutes from 8/15/12

Bob handed out minutes from 8/15/12. Troy asked if these minutes could be approved at the next meeting, so they could be read and reviewed. Bob agreed.

Project Update from PM

DISCUSSION OF COURT FACILITY:

Background: Steering Committee member, Thomas Frank, addressed the entire committee via email on 9/16/12 regarding the need to “relocate the court clerk to the new PD along with using the community / training room as the court room as needed.” Since he would be unable to attend the next steering committee meeting, he listed various reasons why this needed to be reconsidered. Bob responded to the email, stating the committee would discuss this topic at the 9/19/12 meeting.

Bob led discussion: Due to the original charge with designing a Police Station (excluding a Court facility), and the direction the design team has been following, Bob suggested these potential set-backs.

1. Design change order
2. Time delay
3. Traffic engineering study
4. Not enough land (parking)
5. Extra cost
6. Modify land use approval to include court use
7. Neighborhood residents may not like having court visitors coming into their neighborhood

Bob gave his recommendation that we do not pursue a Court facility, as the bond measure, the budget, and the design (so-far) does not allow for it. He asked for open dialogue and other comments.

Dennis Richey stated that the Public Safety Committee had been in favor of a Court facility, due to lack of security at the current City Hall Court facility; however, he isn't suggesting we should do it now, due to the additional issues it creates. He suggested that the multi-purpose room could be expanded later, as long as we design the new building to accommodate it, with building and parking placement on property.

Chief Timeus explained how the multi-purpose room will be used by the Police officers for trainings (which will bring in potential revenue), and how much access the Court facility would need

Grant Oakes said he would be very reluctant to back track now. As much as he wanted to see a Court facility from day one, it's not what they were charged to do. "We should hold the course we have."

Glen Friedman stated that he always liked the idea of the Court being with the PD, but we did take it out, to reduce the bond measure. He understands the training needs for the multi-purpose room. He said he doesn't think it's worth trying to force it.

Troy Bowers explained that he discussed this issue with Thomas Frank, who wanted to make sure that the committee had rigorous discussion on this topic. Troy revisited the beginning of the bond measure PAC, and the desire to include a Court facility, from a safety and location standpoint. The reality is we don't have the money. This is a good time to talk about it, and make sure we are heading in the right direction.

Chief Timeus brought up that we would need to provide not only a room to hold court, but also room for five staff members in a secure area as well.

Brett Hanson confirmed that in his experience it does involve more than just a room to hold court. Consideration needs to be made for congestion (and volume) of court visitors, security of the judge and court clerks, parking, etc.

Brett gave ballpark costs for building footprint changes, parking requirement (moving parking underground), construction costs, etc. Bob also elaborated a little on the cost effect of this change.

Grant proposed that “we stick with what we’ve got”, because that’s what we said we were going to do. He said we need to create trust in the community, so we can continue to do projects in the future. Troy agreed that we need to “deliver what we told people we were going to give them”. He said if there’s an opportunity where we could get more, then great, but we need to deliver what we are delivering the best we can.

Troy and Dennis both said that the five additional office spaces needed is not something that had been considered in recent discussions about including the Court. It shines a new light on the topic.

Dennis said the negatives far outweigh the positives for trying to incorporate Court facilities in the Police Station at this time. However, that doesn’t change the fact that there is a potential danger in the current building.

Troy said that he thinks Thomas and Karen would be satisfied with the level of consideration and discussion on this topic by the committee. It is disappointing to not be able to have what they wanted three years ago, but we are where we are, and it was important to re-visit the topic to be sure we are considering all possibilities.

Grant asked if they needed to make a motion. Bob said that there is no need for a vote, but a discussion was important.

UPDATE ON TIMELINE:

We are generally on time. Bob will update Council on October 1 in a Council Work Session. Demolition will begin the first week of October. Group Mackenzie needs a formal go-ahead to proceed with design. Bob would like the committee to make a recommendation to council to proceed, based upon tonight’s presentation.

Schematic Design drawings/plans

Brett showed the committee several exterior drawings and design concepts, along with multiple parking/building placement considerations, and the ultimately the proposed exterior design concept.

The City and Group Mackenzie have every intention to preserve the black walnut tree on 8th.

Troy mentioned that it is important to show the Council and community how the design will fit in with the residential and historical neighborhoods.

Design recommendation to Council

We are at the schematic design phase. The question presented by Bob to the committee is “are we headed in the right direction?” from a general design standpoint.

Grant said he likes that it does not look like a warehouse. He likes the variable dimensions, and that it is not flat.

Troy said he is pleased with the process and the direction.

Glen stated it doesn’t need to look historic, but that it incorporates some of the elements of the historic neighborhood.

Dennis reiterated that it’s important to fit in with the Willamette historic neighborhood.

Bob said that West Linn has a collection of brick civic buildings, so keeping with the brick is traditional.

Bob asked if he could represent to council that this group believes that we are (from a schematic standpoint) headed in the right direction. All committee members present agreed unanimously.

The meeting Adjourned at 6:30 pm